

Cabinet (Performance Management) Panel

17 September 2018

Report title	WV Insight open data platform – next steps	
Decision Designation	AMBER	
Cabinet member with lead responsibility	Councillor Val Gibson Governance	
Key decision	No	
In forward plan	No	
Wards affected	All Wards	
Accountable director	Tim Johnson, Managing Director	
Originating service	Insight and Performance, Communications	
Accountable employee(s)	Ian Fegan	Head of Service, Communications
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Report to be/has been considered by	N/A	

Recommendations for noting:

That Cabinet (Performance Management) Panel is recommended to note:

1. The successful internal launch of the WV Insight portal and proposed external launch date for the site of the 24 September 2018
2. An outline proposal for the phase 2 development of WV Insight and to receive a fully scoped proposal at a future meeting of Cabinet (Performance Management) Panel.

1.0 Purpose

1.1 Following on from the previous update to Cabinet (Performance Management) Panel in June 2018, the purpose of this report is to update members on:

- The completion of the WV Insight portal and successful internal launch of the site to councillors and officers.
- The proposed date for the external launch of the site to the public, businesses, community and voluntary organisations.
- A forward plan of development activity for the site to build on existing site functionality.

2.0 Background

2.1 WV Insight is an open data platform and 'one stop shop' for councillors, officers, the public businesses for data and information about their wards, the city and wider region.

2.2 The new system replaces the outdated Wolverhampton in Profile and delivers:

- Data from multiple sources consolidated into a single place providing ward, constituency, regional and national data
- Improved intelligence-led decision making
- A mechanism for officers, councillors and businesses to interact with key data sets about the city
- Access to open data to support Public Service Reform and the Smart City agendas

2.3 WV Insight includes universal information available to all, as well as a Councillor Portal with key service level information to support councillors in their work.

3.0 WV Insight Internal Launch

3.1 Development of the site was completed on the 15 June and following this a six-week period of extensive user testing was undertaken to ensure site stability and security. Final user testing showed no adverse technical issues and the site met the Customer Service and Equalities standards for user experience.

3.2 On the 30 July a soft launch of the site was carried out internally to councillors and officers across the organisation. Throughout August officers were encouraged to test the site and report back on its functionality, as well as the look and feel. Feedback was positive, and a number of suggestions for additional data and content have been incorporated into a forward plan for the site. This includes a council tax dashboard displaying a break-down of council tax payments by band and ward, typical households by band and overall revenue income breakdown. A highways dashboard, building on the already existing City Environment dashboard, will also be developed in the Councillor Portal. Both dashboards will be completed in the coming weeks.

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3.3 Following on from the success of the internal launch a date of the 24 September has been identified for an external launch. A number of key partners across the city have already been engaged about the site, in particular the University of Wolverhampton and Citizens Advice, and are enthusiastic about the potential of the site to support their work and be a key resource for the city.

4.0 Phase 2 Development

4.1 Phase 2 development of the site will be focused on implementing the open data section. This will provide a central point to hold raw data sets as opposed to the already existing interactive data dashboards currently displayed.

4.2 Open data as a concept, is being adopted globally: to make public service and commercial data openly available for everyone to use and republish as they wish, without restrictions from copyright, patents or other mechanisms of control.

4.3 Open data is potentially a catalyst that, at a macro level, could encourage innovation in the city, and at a micro level help the Council develop new approaches to delivering services, and lead to new systems to improve outcomes.

4.4 The Council gathers many types of data to help deliver and inform its work. Making this data 'open' has the potential to bring benefits to citizens, communities, businesses and partners. It is envisaged that the site will hold data relating to common FOI requests as well as those data sets which are required to be published under the Local Government Transparency Act. By storing this data on a central space it is hoped that this will bring a reduction in the demand on officers to facilitate and deliver this information moving forward.

4.5 Development of open data functionality for the site builds on an ambition to consolidate the position of WV Insight as the central data publishing platform - not just for the Council - but also the wider city. Working with partners and businesses the ambition is to position the platform as the single, authoritative source of data about the city.

4.6 A fully scoped proposal for phase 2 of the site will be brought to a future meeting of Cabinet (Performance Management) Panel.

5.0 Financial implications

5.1 The costs associated with the initial launch of WV Insight Portal have been met from a budget set aside within the Corporate directorate for this specific purpose. Any financial implications associated with the second phase of development will be evaluated when a fully scoped proposal is available and included in a future report to the Panel.

[GE/07092018/B]

6.0 Legal implications

6.1 There are no direct legal implications arising from this report. The site will comply with all relevant legislation including the Data Protection Act 2018 and the GDPR regulations 2018.

[RB/06092018/S]

7.0 Equalities implications

7.1 There are no direct equalities implications arising from this report.

8.0 Environmental implications

8.1 There are no direct environmental implications arising from this report.

9.0 Project Implications

9.1 There are no direct project implications arising from this report. All project resource required for the phase 2 development of WV Insight will be met by the existing project team.

10.0 Human resources implications

10.1 There are no direct human resource requirements resulting from this report.

11.0 Corporate landlord implications

11.1 There are no direct corporate landlord implications from this report.

12.0 Schedule of background papers

12.1 13 June 2018 – Update on development of new Outcomes Based Accountability Performance Framework and new WV Insight Portal